

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): Rear dérailleur device, for a bicycle equipped with a bicycle chain and a set of rear pinions, comprising [[,]]

- a rotatable base provided with a return spring forcing said base in an anti-clockwise direction,
- guiding/dérailleur means fixedly connected with said base, and
- a movable tension plate ~~fixedly~~ pivotaly connected with the guiding/dérailleur means, and

- a guiding/dérailleur roller in alignment with the moveable tension plate, said guiding/dérailleur roller being mounted freely rotatable in a position immediately downstream of the tension plate relative to a path and direction of travel of said chain,

wherein the chain passes over the guiding/dérailleur roller, and wherein the guiding/dérailleur roller is supported in the plane of the chain by translation adjustment means.

Claim 2 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 1, wherein the movable tension plate comprises a supporting arm, a tension arm mounted pivoting relative to said supporting arm, and a first and a second tension roller mounted rotatably at the ends of the tension arm, as well as a spring forcing the tension arm in the anti-clockwise direction, the chain passing over the first tension roller and under the second tension roller.

Claim 3 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 2, wherein the tension arm is mounted on an axis pivoting relative to the supporting arm, and

~~that~~ said axis being disposed essentially in the centre of said tension arm.

Claim 4 (previously presented): Dérailleur device according to claim 2, wherein the tension arm is mounted on an axis pivoting relative to the supporting arm, said axis coinciding with the rotation axis of the second roller.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein the guiding/dérailleur roller ~~comprises~~ has complementary lateral guiding/dérailleur means associated therewith.

Claim 8 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein the guiding/dérailleur roller ~~comprises~~ has complementary lateral pression means associated therewith.

Claim 9 (previously presented): Dérailleur device according to claim 14, wherein the lateral pression flange is mounted translationally variable.

Claim 10 (currently amended): ~~Dérailleur device according to claim 1, further comprising~~ Rear dérailleur device, for a bicycle equipped with a bicycle chain and a set of rear pinions, comprising

- a rotatable base provided with a return spring forcing said base in an anti-clockwise direction,
- guiding/dérailleur means fixedly connected with said base,
- a movable tension plate pivotally connected with the guiding/dérailleur means, and
- connection means interposed between the movable tension plate and ~~the~~

guiding/dérailleur means so as to restrain tensional stress of the chain and return forces of the guiding/dérailleur means.

Claim 11 (previously presented): Dérailleur device according to claim 10, said guiding/dérailleur means comprising a deformable parallelogram effective to adjust the lateral position of said chain relative to said set of rear pinions, wherein the connection means comprise a cable which co-operates with a roller sector attached to said movable tension plate, and with a return spring of the deformable parallelogram of the guiding/dérailleur means.

Claim 12 (previously presented): Dérailleur device according to claim 1, further comprising a crankcase for enveloping at least the rear dérailleur device, the pinions, and the chain.

Claim 13 (previously presented): Dérailleur device according to claim 7, said complementary lateral guiding/dérailleur means comprising at least one flange.

Claim 14 (previously presented): Dérailleur device according to claim 8, said complementary lateral pression means comprising at least one lateral pression flange.

Claim 15 (previously presented): Dérailleur device according to claim 1, said dérailleur device being located in a vertical position that provides substantially the same or better ground clearance relative to said set of rear pinions.

Claim 16 (new) Dérailleur device according to claim 1, said dérailleur device being located in a vertical position that provides substantially the same or better ground clearance relative to a set of disks associated with a front dérailleur of said bicycle.